



Sheila Dixon

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Mayor Sheila Dixon Announces Free Daily Guided Walking Tours on Heritage Walk and Mount Vernon Cultural Walk

Baltimore, MD (July 2, 2007) – Continuing her commitment to celebrate Baltimore's uniquely rich historical, cultural, and natural resources, Mayor Sheila Dixon announced today that the city will provide free tours daily on Heritage Walk and Mount Vernon Cultural Walk.

"Our cultural heritage is one of the most valuable resources we have," said Mayor Dixon. "I am very pleased that we are able to provide free guided tours to encourage residents and visitors to discover the wonder of this great American city and our important place in the national story. These tours provide yet another great recreational opportunity to the people of Baltimore."

July is the debut of Mount Vernon Cultural Walk. From Charles Center to Mount Vernon Place, from the B&O Railroad building to the Peabody Institute, Baltimore's rich cultural landscape rises from the Chesapeake and is unmistakable on Cultural Walk. This walking trail takes visitors through one of America's premier cultural districts, connecting 24 historic sites and museums, as well as restaurants and shops.

The Mount Vernon Cultural Walk offers marvelous examples of 19th and 20th century architecture like the Beaux-Arts B&O Railroad building, the Art Deco Bank of America Tower, and Mies van der Rohe's sleek One Charles Center. Along the tour visitors will hear stories of how trade, finance, and the railroad industry generated great wealth that ultimately created many of the nation's foremost cultural institutions such as the Walters Art Museum, Enoch Pratt Free Library, the Peabody Institute, and much more.

The Baltimore's Heritage Walk offers guided walking tours through the Inner Harbor, Little Italy and historic Jonestown, telling the stories of Baltimore's heritage while showcasing more than 20 of the city's most distinct and beautiful landmarks and historic sites. The experience will allow walkers to discover the Flag House and Star-Spangled Banner Museum, the Carroll Mansion, the Jewish Museum of Maryland and the Reginald Lewis Museum of Maryland African-American History and Culture to name a few.

Tours are led by trained and uniformed Urban Park Rangers. Tours start at the Inner Harbor Visitor's Center. Heritage Walk is offered daily at 10:00 AM. Mount Vernon Cultural Walk is offered daily at 12 noon. Please visit www.starspangledtrails.org for more information on Baltimore's Star Spangled Trails or call 443-984-3089.

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